

WHITE COUNTY COMMUNITY RESOURCE HANDBOOK



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White County Community Resource Handbook

The purpose of this resource guide is to provide a list of available services and organizations offering assistance to the citizens and visitors of White County. This handbook is to help provide access to community resources and to remove some of the barriers to finding services. The agencies and phone numbers listed are available resources to you from our county or surrounding counties.

Searching the Internet provides access to a wealth of information for topics listed in this handbook. Free Internet access and help is available at the White County Libraries in Cleveland or Helen. Parents should also check with their child's school media center to see if Internet access is available there for parents.

The White County Sheriff's Office offers no endorsements for any of these groups or organizations.

Public Safety Agency Phone Numbers

- Emergency Call Center: 911
- White County Sheriff's Office: 706-865-5177 (non-emergency)
- Cleveland Police Department: 706-865-2111 (non-emergency)
- Helen Police Department: 706-878-2722 (non-emergency)
- White County Fire Department: 706-865-3855 (non-emergency)
- Cleveland Fire Department: 706-865-2017 (non-emergency)
- Helen Fire Department: 706-878-3676 (non-emergency)
- White County Emergency Management Agency (EMA): 706-865-9500

Healthcare/Medical Services/Family Assistance

- White County DFCS: 706-865-3128
 - Determines eligibility for financial and medical assistance.
 - Provides social services, administers aid to families with dependent children, provides medical assistance.
 - Administers the food stamp program.
 - Offers Child Welfare Program which includes protective services to children and adults, provides adoptive services, foster care services, etc.
 - Investigates allegations of child abuse and neglect.
- Division of Aging Services (Adult Protective Services): 1-866-552-4464) - Press "3"
 - Report abuse of disabled adults or elder persons.
 - Reports are accepted by phone Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Legacy Link: 770-538-2650 or 800-845-5465
 - Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for the 13 county region including Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White Counties.
 - The AAA is responsible for advocacy for seniors, planning, and administration of programs, coordination and monitoring services in the area.
- White County Health Dept.: 706-865-2191
 - Provides health services to children and adults.
 - Provides immunizations and family planning services.
 - Provides health education and physical examinations.
- Family Connection: 706-865-3215

- Department of Juvenile Justice: 706-348-4858
 - Provides intake and counseling services to juvenile offenders on probation.
- Vocational Rehabilitation: 706-348-4882
 - Provides assistance to individuals who have a physical, mental, or emotional disability that interferes with their ability to go to work.
- Regional Commission Workforce Development: 77-538-2727
 - Career Coach—2nd Tuesday of each month.
- White County Learning Center (GED): 706-865-7323
 - Monday/Wednesday 8:00—6:00 P.M.
 - Tuesday/Thursday 8:00—1:00 P.M.
- Department of Child Support: 877-423-4746
 - Seeks out non-custodial parent(s) to obtain child support for their children or to regain child support payments.
- Community Services Program—Ninth District Opportunity, Inc.: 706-865-6220
 - Provides energy assistance, emergency assistance with past due utility bills, past due rent or mortgage payments, provides provision of food assistance and other special food initiatives.
 - Provides case management for homeless/housing issues (negotiations with landlords, transportation, prevention of eviction, minor home repair), helps with the provision of prescription medication, money management/budgeting, distributes commodity foods (usually in March and September—130% poverty level), helps with job coaching/referral/placement, installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
 - Also has several other services provided.
- Babies Can't Wait/Children with Special Needs: 770-535-6907
 - Provides services for children ages birth—2 years of age who have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that could cause a delay in normal development are eligible for the Babies Can't Wait Program.
 - Provides services for children who are significantly behind others their age in learning ability, physical development, language or speech development, social or self-help skills, or emotional development are also eligible.
 - Provides services for children from birth—21 years of age through out-patient clinics for children with medical problems.
- Labor Department: 706-776-0811
- Community Helping Hands Clinic: 706-865-1223
- Caring Hands Ministries: 706-219-1980

Crisis Intervention & Advocacy:

- Rape Response: 770-503-7273
 - Rape Response provides help to survivors of sexual assault, their families and loved ones.
 - Rape Response serves Georgia residents of Dawson, Forsyth, Habersham, Hall, Lumpkin and White counties.
- Circle of Hope (Domestic Violence): 706-776-4673 or 800-334-2836
 - Shelter is provided for battered women and dependent children who are in danger and have no other safe place to go.
 - Shelter is staffed 24 hours a day.
 - Food and emergency clothing are provided.
 - Other services include support groups, legal advocacy, personal advocacy, children's group, and TANF assessment, volunteer program, and thrift store. All services are free and confidential.
- Avita Counseling Service (Mental Health): 706-348-4060
 - Serves persons experiencing the disabling effects of mental illness, developmental disabilities, and addictive diseases.
- Georgia Mobile Crisis Access Line (GCAL): 800-715-4225
 - For severe behavioral health crisis.
- White County Schools Family Advocate: 706-865-2315, ext. 1404
- Cleveland Care Center—Pregnancy Resource Center Education/Free Service: 706-219-1678
- Enotah Anti-Drug Coalition: 678-463-3587
- Safelink/Assurance Wireless: 877-378-1761
 - Cell phone program through Georgia Lifeline.
 - SAFELINK WIRELESS® service is a program for Income eligible households provided by TracFone Wireless, Inc. In order to participate in the SAFELINK WIRELESS® service, persons must meet certain eligibility requirements set by each State where the service is to be provided.
 - These requirements are based on a person's participation in a state or Federal support programs or by meeting the Income Poverty Guidelines as defined by the U.S. Government.
 - SAFELINK WIRELESS® service is limited to one person per household.
- Social Security Administration: 800-772-1213

- Northeast Georgia Area of Narcotics Anonymous (NEGANA): 1-800-837-4239 (Hotline Number)
 - Meets Thursdays 8:00 P.M. and Fridays 7:00 P.M. at Cleveland First Presbyterian Church.
- NAR-ANON
 - For family members and friends of someone with a drug addiction.
 - Meets Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. at Cleveland First Presbyterian Church

Housing Assistance/Homeless Shelters:

- Caring and Sharing: 706-892-4806
 - 4th Monday of the month.
 - 10:00 A.M.—Noon—applications for basics.
- Cleveland Housing Authority: 706-219-3183
- Helen Housing Authority: 706-878-1479
 - Helen Library, applications taken Wednesdays 10:00—11:00 A.M.
- Hillside Apartments: 706-865-9011
 - Subsidized apartments.
 - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00—2:00 P.M.
- Gateway Village: 706-219-2773
 - Subsidized apartments.
 - Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 8:30—4:30 P.M.
- Family Promise: 706-865-7725
 - Family temporary homeless program.
- St. Paul's Catholic Church
 - Some assistance with rent, utilities and gas vouchers the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 A.M.
- Habersham Homeless Ministries, Clarkesville: 706-754-9031
 - 30 day transitional shelter plus help to get a job, find a long term affordable rent, deal with the things that led the individual to being homeless.
 - Families stay in their own apartment, single adults share apartment with 2-3 roommates (each has their own room).
 - Generally does not accept unmarried couples. No calls after 5:00 P.M.
- Salvation Army: 770-534-7589 or 770-531-0135
 - Dorm style separate men's and women's dorms.

- Not recommended for parent who has a child of a different gender.
- May also have some transitional housing for families.
- Hospitality Care—Caring Hands Ministries during severe weather outside of tourist season: 706-219-1980
 - Motels donate one or more nights for a short term emergency stay. Best to call as early in the day as possible so someone can return the phone call.
- My Sister's Place (Gainesville): 770-532-5111 (Women and children only—call first).
 - Women and girls, boys 10 and under with their mothers. No drugs or alcohol. Small home-like, dorm style. Must be able and willing to work.
- I'm in a Family Receiving Home, Cumming, GA: 770-889-7950 (imaf_inc@bellsouth.net, www.inafamily.org).
 - Single mothers with children, women who are pregnant, or other homeless women. No drugs or alcohol.
- L.A.M.P. (Gainesville): 770-783-1272
 - Teen girls alone or teen moms and their children.
 - Girls stay with volunteer host families.
 - No drugs or alcohol.
- Good News Shelter (Gainesville): 770-503-1366
 - Men only.
- Gainesville City Baptists Men's Mission: across from the old jail
 - Emergency and longer term stays at \$7 per day.

Clothing/Food Assistance:

- Cleveland Community Thrift Store: 706-865-0574
 - Clothes and household items.
- Concord Baptist Church Hope Center: 77-983-7272
 - Clothing and household items.
 - Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00—12:00 P.M.
 - Saturday 9:00—12:00 P.M.
 - Located next to Papa's Pizza in Clermont
- Friendship Feeds Families: 706-865-0722
 - Phone calls returned within 24 hours.
- Life Changing Ministries: 706-219-3842
 - Thrift Store.

- “Meet the Need” food distribution 2nd Thursday of the month.
- Located behind Chevron Station on Highway 115.
- Mt. Yonah Baptist Church food distribution: 706-865-5044
 - 1st Saturday of the month at 8:30 A.M. (arrive by 8:15 A.M.)
- White County Food Pantry: 706-348-6225
 - Monday—Friday 10:00—12:00 P.M.
- St. Paul’s Catholic Church—food distribution: 706-865-4474
 - Last Thursday of each month—10:00—12:00 P.M.
- Helen First Baptist Church—food distribution: 706-878-2089
 - 3rd Saturday of each month—arrive 8:30 A.M.
- The Torch of Cornelia food distribution: 706-778-4063
 - First Saturday of each month—8:00 A.M.
 - Other option: The Torch Food Pantry—Monday 10:00—12:00 P.M., Wednesday 5:00—7:00 P.M., Saturday 10:00—12:00 P.M.
 - Located downtown Cornelia adjacent to the United Way Building.

Other Miscellaneous Agencies:

- Safe Kids Georgia: 770-219-8095
 - Safe Kids Gainesville/Hall County is led by Northeast Georgia Medical Center and Health System, Inc., which provides dedicated and caring staff, operation support and other resources to assist in achieving our common goal: keeping your kids safe.
 - Based on the needs of the community, this coalition implements evidence-based programs, such as car-seat checkups, safety workshops and sports clinics, that help parents and caregivers prevent childhood injuries.
- American Red Cross Northeast Georgia (Gainesville): 770- 532-8453
 - Provides assistance in time of fire and flood with food, water, and clothing.
- American Cancer Society (Gainesville): 770-297-1176
 - Need a ride to treatment? Or lodging and travel help? Your local ACS office is here to help with the challenges of dealing with cancer.
 - All services are free thanks to our generous donors and volunteers.
 - Appointments are needed for all services to ensure we have the right people available to meet your needs.
 - Hours and services vary by location.
- Cancer Information Specialists: 1-800-227-2345, 24 hours a day.
- Poison Control Center: 1-800-222-1222

- Poison centers offer free, confidential medical advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week through the Poison Help line.
- This service provides a primary resource for poisoning information and helps reduce costly hospital visits through in-home treatment.
- White County YMCA: 706-865-5275
 - Scholarships are available for children wanting to participate in team sports.
 - Applications can be obtained at the facility.
- White County Senior Center: 706-865-4097
- White County Animal Control: 706-219-2689
- White County Board of Commissioners: 706-865-2235
 - County Manager: 706-865-2235
- White County District Attorney's Office: 706-865-3306
- White County Public Defender's Office: 706-348-8577
- White County Probate Court: 706-865-4141
- White County Magistrate Court: 706-865-6636
- White County Superior Court: 706-865-6135
- White County Tax Commissioner's Office: 706-865-2225

Schools:

- White County Board of Education: 706-865-2315
- White County Pre-K/Head Start: 706-865-4947
- Jack P. Nix Elementary School: 706-865-6935
- Mossy Creek Elementary School: 706-865-5000
- Mt. Yonah Elementary School: 706-865-3514
- White County Intermediate School: 706-865-1037
- White County Middle School: 706-865-4060
- White County Ninth Grade Academy: 706-865-0727
- White County High School: 706-865-2312
- Mountain Education Charter High School: 706-219-4664
- Truett-McConnell College: 706-865-2134